

SOME LABOR TROUBLES.

THE COAL OPERATORS' AGREEMENT IS FINALLY RATIFIED.

Some Spite Work in a strike That Did Not Meet the Approval of Justice—Along the Rio Grande—Strikes and Strikers—Labor Notes.

BELEVILLE, Ill., May 19.—An adjourned mass-meeting of the coal miners of the Belleville district was held at the West Belleville fire engine house, for the purpose of hearing the report of the committee which met the operators at East St. Louis to agree on a settlement of the difficulties which have been agitating the miners and their employers for some weeks past.

Thomas Simpson, president of the district, presided, and about 300 miners were in attendance. Upon the meeting being called to order, the chairman stated its object, and called on William Jacques, chairman of the conference committee, to state the result of their meeting with the operators. This he did in a clear manner, and then read the resolution adopted by the operators, which is as follows:

"Resolved, That the coal operators present at a meeting held in East St. Louis, hereby agree that we will maintain a price for coal in East St. Louis and St. Louis that will justify the operators of hand mines in paying at least sixty cents per ton, and that we further agree that we will not sell coal to any operator who refuses to pay the miners the agreed price of sixty cents per ton."

Several members of the committee stated that the report of the meeting was a fair statement of all that transpired at the meeting, whereupon loud calls were made for the reading of the same. Jacques then mounted the platform, upon a motion that he read the report, and in a clear manner read the long article to the meeting. It was received with loud applause.

After a full and free discussion of the resolution it was accepted by the miners with but three dissenting votes, and these were from those who feared that machine miners would secure no benefit from it.

It was then decided with but twelve dissenting votes that all miners resume work for all operators who are willing to pay the price agreed upon. Those opposed to this motion favored a referendum, in answer to which all that lodged should be immediately fully organized so that differences and complaints may be at once referred to them, the meeting adjourned.

Spite Work in a Strike.

DENVER, Col., May 19.—E. W. Cochrane and W. A. Graves, two of the Rio Grande strikers, and who are supposed to represent the body of the strikers, appeared before justice of the Peace in Denver, and swore out warrants against fifteen Denver & Rio Grande engineers, charging them with running their engine faster than is permitted by law over the Denver & New Orleans railway crossing, three miles below the city. The district attorney objected to having the warrants issued. He considered the issuing of the warrants spite work on the part of Cochrane and Graves, and doubted if there was any ground for proving the guilt of the engineers. He wished to save any unnecessary expense to the city. It was said that the complainants represented certain Rio Grande employees, and that arresting the Rio Grande engineers was a part of a move to get even with them for refusing to join the strike and swearing five of the strikers into jail.

The two strikers said the charges could be easily proved. The justice issued warrants against six of the engineers, as follows: L. W. Clarke, James Stuckle, Samuel Henderson, Philip King, Joseph Dale, and William Reed. Warrants for the others were withheld temporarily. Friends of the engineers claim that the strikers are striking at the railway company through its engineers. The law says the engineers must continue to a full stop before making a crossing, and shall not pass over it at a speed greater than four miles an hour. The fine is from \$5 to \$250.

The strike is at a halt, although it is evident from the attitude of the men that a new move is contemplated.

Five Knights of Labor were discharged from the B. & M. shops here, and the members of that order are loud in their denunciation of the act. They consider it a part of the fight the railways are waging against the Knights or Labor order. The B. & M. managers here disclaim any such intention, but say that the five men were discharged because that number of employees could be dispensed with. It is said that definite action will be taken at the Knights of Labor meeting.

Trouble at the Higbee Coal Mines. BOLNIVILLE, Mo., May 19.—Col. John S. Elliott, of this city, who owns the largest interest in the Higbee coal mines in Randolph county, twenty miles north of this place, was telegraphed that trouble was apprehended from the striking miners. Says May 1 the men have been on a strike and their places have been filled by negroes sent from here. The negroes are all supplied with firearms and will undoubtedly use them if they are mistreated. The company will endeavor to supply the places of the Welsh miners, now striking, with negroes whom the former declare will not be allowed to work. Serious trouble is feared.

On the War Path.

DETROIT, Mich., May 19.—There is great excitement in Springfield, a suburb of Detroit, caused by the general strike in the eighteen brick yards. About three hundred brick makers marched from yard to yard forcing the others to quit work. The trouble grows out of the numerous meetings held by the socialists and anarchists. Thus far no formal demand for an increase of wages has been made so the trouble seems uncaused for the sheriff will be asked to send a posse to the scene of the disturbances. At last accounts it is reported that the strikers intend to close the Michigan Central car shops and Michigan car works.

Hanging Himself in His Cell.

JAMESTOWN, May 19.—Albert P. Anderson, a Swede, under arrest for assaulting a companion with a rock, hanged himself last night by using his leather belt as a noose and the cell door as a scaffold. He was 45 years old, and married.

Charles Williams, a negro, brutally assaulted Mrs. George Keen in Lexington county, Md., was captured after a desperate fight and was about being lynched when he was rescued and put in Cambridge jail.

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